SECURITY INFORMATION

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Uruguay COUNTRY

SUBJECT

Inter-American Press Conference in Montevideo

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Prior to 20 October 1984 NATO CIA

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X REPORT NO.

- At the sessions of La Pociedad Interamericana de Prensa (Inter-American Society of the Press) Conference in Montevideo during the period 8-12 October 1951, a considerable amount of anti-U.S. influence was demonstrated by a faction which was led and undoubtedly financed by the Argentine Covernment. The known Communist delegates presented little opposition to the U.S. delegation, and the principal Communist effort was conducted by Genaro Carnero Checa, a Peruvian Communist, who was not a delegate to the conference, but who was in constant contact with the Argentine group, which walked out of the session on 10 October.
- Substantiating information that the Argentine Government had made previous plans to disrupt the conference is the report from a well-informed source stating that the four Cubans and one Ecuadorian who joined the Argentine group received all their expenses to the conference paid by the Argentine Government. The same source said that the only delegates to forward their entry fees to New York by cable were the Cuban and Ecuadorian delegates. All the Cuban delegates flew from Habana to New York City, then via FAMA, the Argentine Government airline, to Buenos Aires. Source claimed as a further indication that the delegates were financed by Peron is the fact that, during a visit in Cuba before the conference, he had a long conversation with Raul Alfonso Gonse, Director of El Mando of Habana. Gonse had just returned from Buenos Aires, where he had been the guest of the Argentine Covernment, with all expenses paid. Gonse stated that Argentine press officials pleaded with him to return to the press conference in Montevideo with the Argentine Covernment again paying all expenses - so that they could put an end to the domination of the Yankee journalists in Latin American The Cuban and Ecuadorian members of this Argentine-backed press meetings. group were:

Alberto Arredondo, El Pueblo, Habana
Ramon C. Benitez, <u>Diario del Comercio</u>, Habana
Isidoro Virgilio Merino, <u>La Campana Cubana</u>, Habana
Alfonso Granados, <u>Tiempo in Cuba</u>, Habana

Ecuador: Wilfredo Loor Moreira, El Ecuatoriano, Quito

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3. In addition to this dissident organization, Carnero Checa persuaded a small 25X1X from of journalists to issue a declaration calling for still another All-alin-American press meeting which would exclude U.S. participants.

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of the influential front men, stated that, after the declaration was sublished, that he had been "taken in" by Carnero Checa and that he was doing everything possible to discredit Carnero Checa. The signers of this declaration were:

Genaro Carnero Checa - Federación de .eriodistas del Peru Juan Emilio Pacull - Circulo de .eriodistas de Santiago de Chile Dr. Herbert Moses - Associação Brasileira da Imprensa Ernesto Juan Fonfrias - Asociación de Periodistas de Puerto Rico Carlos Martinez Moreno - Asociación de la Prensa Uruguaya

- 4. Camero Checa, aside from organizing this group, was extremely active in spreading anti-U.S. propaganda among members of the Conference and newsman not attending the meeting. A surveillance of Carnero Checa revealed that he did not contact local Communist leaders nor any members of the Soviet Embassy in Montevideo.
- 5. Miguel Otero Silva, the Venezuelan Communist, attended all the sessions of the conference and did not follow the example of the Argentine delegates. Otero Silva conducted himself with great reserve at all official and unofficial meetings and is not known to have made any anti-U.S. statements while the conference was in session. A surveillance of his activities has shown that he was not contacted by any Communist leaders in Montevideo and that all of his efforts were of a purely journalistic nature. A record of his telephone conversations from his hotel has failed to establish any connections with leaders of the Communist Party of Oruguay. Otero Silva has stated that he intends to remain in Uruguay for a short period of time, ostensibly to gather material for his newspaper in Caracas.

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